(c) by when this overhauling is likely to be completed;

(d) whether Government proposes to fix a yearly target for each judge to dispose of the cases;

(e) if so, whether Government has formulated any strategy to ensure the quality of justice; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Government has taken up the work of preparing a roadmap for judicial reforms in the country which aims, *inter-alia*, at reducing pendency in the courts. In this context, the Government organized a "National Consultation for strengthening the judiciary towards reducing pendency and delays" on 24th-25th October, 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. In the National Consultation, it was, *inter-alia*, resolved that efforts will be made by all concerned to reduce the time taken for disposal of cases from 15 years to 3 years and to work together to implement various steps required to ensure provision of expeditious, quality and inclusive justice. These are under consideration of the Government.

(d) No, Sir. This is a matter on which a decision is taken by the judiciary.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

Property rights of wives

†1137. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in few States of India, wives have equal legal rights in movable and immovable property titled in the names of their husbands;

(b) if so, the names of such States and nature of such laws; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delegation of power to State Governments to approve mining

†1138. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to delegate the power of giving approval for the mining of minerals included in part (a) and (c) of the first schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to States;

(b) whether some members of Hoda Committee were not in agreement with it and if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the Central Government and State Governments are unanimous on the opinion of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) State Governments are the owners of the minerals and mineral rights vest in the State Government.

(b) and (c) The representatives from State Government of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa and Karnataka raised concerns on dilution of powers of the State Governments. These concerns were discussed with the Governments of chief mineral producing States and based on the resolution achieved with them, a National Mineral Policy, 2008, was enunciated by the Government on 13.3.2008.

National fund for development of mining sector

1139. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has proposed creation of a national fund by levying a cess of 10 per cent on royalties on all mine lesses and the proceeds would be utilized to detect and prevent illegal mining besides developing awareness on mining in mining zones;

(b) whether Government would be able to mobilize nearly 2000 crores as a result thereof and the money would be pooled into the National Minerals Fund that would be utilized to assist the Indian Bureau of Mines in enforcement of the provisions of the MMDR Act; and

(c) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The Central Government has initiated a process to introduce legislative changes in terms of the National Mineral Policy, 2008, which enunciates setting up of fund for mineral development through levy of separate cess. The amount of revenue likely to be generated cannot be estimated at present since it is dependent on the finalisation of rate of cess by Government.

Illegal mining

1140. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the reports of rampant illegal mining of minerals being carried out in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the companies engaged in such illegal activities; and

(d) the action being taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Some instances of illegal mining of minerals have come to the notice of the Government in